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EXCISE

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01,EUR 17,NEA 13,OC 06,CCO 00,CIAE 00,DODE 00,NSAE 00,
NSCE 00,SSO 00,USIE 00,JPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSC 10,P 03,
RSC 01,PRS 01,SS 20,SCS 04,SCA 01,O 02,SY 03,OPR 02,E 15,COM 08,
TRSY 11,FRB 02,AID 28,PC 04,UCF 05,RSR 01,/192 W
063576

O P 012125Z SEP 69
FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4585
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BENGHAZI
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
CINCUSAFE
USCINCEUR
COMSIXTHFLT
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
AMEMBASSY BAIDA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [illegible] DATE JUL 1982
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 2116

SUMMARY:

REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL STILL FIRMLY IN CONTROL OF TRIPOLI. DESPITE SOME MANIFESTATIONS OF FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC SUPPORT, MILITARY REGIME STILL DOES NOT APPEAR TO HAVE ATTRACTED ANY PROMINENT MILITARY OR CIVILIAN ADHERENTS. CURFEW REMAINS TIGHT IN TRIPOLI ENFORCED BY TRIGGER-HAPPY ARMY GUARDS.

1. UAR AMBASSADOR INFORMED RCC LATE AFTERNOON THAT NEW REGIME HAS FULL UAR SUPPORT. CAIRO ANNOUNCED RECOGNITION

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2300 HOURS LOCAL. ACCORDING RADIO CAIRO, IRAQ HAS RECOGNIZED NEW GOVERNMENT, AND POPULAR FRONT LIBERATION PALESTINE HAS ALSO REPORTEDLY ANNOUNCED ITS SUPPORT.

2. ALTHOUGH RADIO REPUBLIC LIBYA CONTINUES TO BROADCAST TEXTS TELEGRAMS OF CONGRATULATIONS AND SUPPORT (FROM 1700 TO 2000 RADIO BROADCAST VIRTUALLY NOTHING ELSE), NUMBER OF SIGNIFICANT SUPPORTERS REMAINS SMALL. OF ALL NAMES BROADCAST, ONLY FOLLOWING APPEAR SIGNIFICANT:

KHALIIL CANAANI, GOVERNOR BANK OF LIBYA ON BEHALF ENTIRE STAFF OF CENTRAL BANK; RAJAB BIN KAATU, MEMBER PARLIAMENT FROM BENGHAZI (AND EMBASSY BAIDA LANDLORD); FORMER MP MUHAMMAD ZA'TUUT FROM DERNA; BRAJIK GHAFFIR, OWNER CHAIN OF HOTELS IN CYRENAICA; ABDALLAH ABBAR, PRESIDENT BENGHAZI CHAMBER COMMERCE; 'ALI WARAYYITH, PERENNIAL TRIPOLITANIAN OPPOSITIONIST; FAMILY OF IDRIS ISAAWI, CHIEF OF STAFF MURDERED IN 1963; VARIOUS SECURITY FORCES CAPTAINS AND LIEUTENANTS; BENGHAZI MOBILE STRIKE FORCE; YOUTH OF SORMAN, HOME OF HOUSE SPEAKER (°URAIQIIB).

4. IDENTITY MEMBERS RCC STILL CLOSELY GUARDED SECRET. ITALIAN AMBASSADOR WHO APPROACHED RCC TO OBTAIN CURFEW PASSES INFORMED CHARGE HE MET WITH FOUR OFFICERS AND TWO CIVILIANS WHO APPEARED BE ON EQUAL FOOTING WITH MILITARY. WHEN US EMBOFF LATER ATTEMPTED OBTAIN NAME THAT EMBASSY COULD CONTACT IF NECESSARY, FIRST LIEUTENANT REFUSED PROVIDE NAME AND INSTRUCTED EMBOFF INSTEAD TO MERELY TELEPHONE TRIPOLI RADIO STATION, EXPLAINING ALL RCC MEMBERS WERE THERE AND ANYONE OF THEM COULD HANDLE EMBASSY'S INQUIRY.

5. MILITARY REGIME DURING COURSE AFTERNOON CUT TRUNK TELEPHONE LINES TO WHEELUS AND ONE OF EMBASSY TIE LINES TO BASE. (EMBASSY NOW HAS ONE TIE LINE PLUS RADIO CIRCUIT TO WHEELUS.) TRIPOLI/BAIDA TELEX CUT LATE AFTERNOON. ALL OIL COMPANY COMMUNICATIONS TO EUROPE AND US CUT.

6. STREETS STILL HEAVILY GUARDED, ALTHOUGH AT LEAST ONE IMPORTANT ROAD BLOCK DISMANTLED AFTER NIGHTFALL AT GARDEN CITY CIRCLE. HEAVY MILITARY TRAFFIC (TANKS, HALF TRACKS, ARMORED CARS AND TRUCKS FILLED WITH SOLDIERS) STREAMING PAST HOME ECON COUNSELOR DWINDLED DURING AFTERNOON AND

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HAS NOW CEASED. RADIO ANNOUNCED COAST GUARD (SECTION OF SECURITY FORCE) HAS BEEN INTEGRATED INTO NAVY AND BOTH ARE NOW UNDER DIRECT CONTROL ARMY REGIME. NAVY HAS BEEN GIVEN RESPONSIBILITY GUARDING HARBOR DRIVE FROM CENTER CITY TO RADIO STATION AND SAILORS NOW ON POST UNDER COMMAND RLN ENSIGN. SPORADIC SHOOTING HAS CONTINUED WITH APPROACH OF DARKNESS BUT NOW AT SOMEWHAT REDUCED RATE.

7. ITALIAN DOCTORS AT GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL REPORTED LATE AFTERNOON EIGHTEEN CASUALTIES. [redacted] b1 E.C.

8. RICHARD VOSS LOCALLY EMPLOYED US CITIZEN, RETURNING FROM DESERT IN VEHICLE BEING DRIVEN BY EMBASSY C&R CHIEF RECEIVED FLESH WOUND FROM EXCITABLE STREET GUARD JUST FEW BLOCKS FROM CHANCERY. VOSS WAS TAKEN TO LOCAL PRIVATE HOSPITAL. HE IS FIRST AND ONLY AMERICAN CASUALTY KNOWN TO EMBASSY.

9. BRITISH AND US EMBASSIES HAVE NOW RECEIVED CURFEW PASSES TO PERMIT MEMBERS DIPLOMATIC STAFF CIRCULATE. BRITISH WERE STRONGLY ADVISED, HOWEVER, NOT TO USE PASSES AFTER DARK. WE DO NOT INTEND USE OURS DURING NIGHT, AND WILL ATTEMPT ASCERTAIN REAL VALUE OUR THREE PIECES OF PAPER AFTER SUN-UP TOMORROW.

10. WHEN PICKING UP CURFEW PASSES FROM RADIO STATION HQS EMBOFF SUGGESTED NEW GROUP MIGHT WISH CONSIDER ISSUING PASSES TO PRESIDENTS AMERICAN OIL COMPANIES OBSERVING THAT IF ARMY WISHED KEEP OIL FLOWING, COMPANY HEADS HAD TO BE ABLE TO MOVE ABOUT CITY. FRIENDLY BUT FIRM FIRST LIEU-TENANT REPLIED THAT SINCE RCC HAD DECIDED TO CLOSE OIL PORTS, EXECUTIVES WOULD NOT RPT NOT NEED PASSES. HE THEN ADDED THAT WHEN RCC REVIEWED PORT CLOSING IN TWO TO THREE DAYS, THEY MIGHT ALSO CONSIDER NEED FOR PASSES FOR COMPANY OFFICERS. COMPANIES CONFIRM PORTS HAVE BEEN CLOSED ALTHOUGH SOME PERMITTED CONTINUE LOADING.

11. BENGHAZI RADIO WAS OFF AIR FOR TWENTY MINUTES DURING EARLY EVENING, BUT IS NOW BROADCASTING AGAIN.

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12. CHARGE, SPECIAL ASSISTANT, AND POLITICAL CHIEF PLUS COMMUNICATORS WILL MAN CHANCERY THROUGHOUT NIGHT AND REPORT ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS. OIC/BAIDA STILL UNABLE LEAVE RESIDENCE. COMMUNICATOR ON DUTY BENGHAZI WHO IN RADIO CONTACT WITH OIC AT LATTER'S RESIDENCE.
GP-4.
BLAKE

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